ISTN-100

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Arthur Jing-min YANG

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed:

Concurrently herewith

For:

ION SEPARATION USING A SURFACE-TREATED XEROGEL

The Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

August 9, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the subject application, please amend the same as follows:

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the tiffe to read --ION SEPARATION USING FUNCTIONALIZED GEL--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, lines 1-3, change "funded in part by a government grant from the Small Business Administration and the U.S. government retains certain rights to this invention" to Imade with Government support under Contract No. DE-FG02-97ER82409 awarded by the Department of Energy. The Government has certain rights to this invention.

Page 1, please delete lines 4-6 and insert the following new section:

 Cross-Reference To Related Application

This application is the National Phase entry, 35 USC 371, of International PCT application, PCT/JP99/02181, filed February 3, 1999, and designating the United States which claims priority from United States provisional application Serial No. 60-074026, filed February 9, 1998.